United Earth Fund

SAVE THE BEES

Support United Earth Fund's Save the Bees program, an emergency bee and pollinator rescue initiative

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POLLINATORS ARE IN PERIL

There's silence where *buzzing* used to be.

- One in every three bites of food depends on pollinators, and bees are carrying most of that responsibility.
- Beekeepers in the United States are losing their colonies at rates of 30-40% every year.
- The sixth mass extinction, a result of rapidly declining biodiversity, is happening in real time.

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SAVE THE BEES

United Earth Fund's Save the Bees initiative is a student-led emergency bee and pollinator rescue program developed with the University of Michigan-Dearborn Environmental Interpretive Center to invite colleges and high schools nationwide to make a difference.

Science-based bee rescue actions

Students rescue bees by building and placing bee hotels, planting rain gardens, monitoring local populations, and identifying local species.

Student-led media campaigns

Student reporters create digital, print, and radio campaigns to inform and engage communities about the latest news on pollinator collapse.

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Save the Bees

A SUSTAINABLE LOOP

Students rescue bees. The data they collect becomes content. Engaging content brings in support. Generous support sustains the rescue.

Once it's running, the loop sustains itself.

1. Students rescue bees

Students engage in science-based bee rescue actions to provide long-term support to sustain our bees and pollinators.

2. Data becomes content

The data they collect is turned into informative and engaging content like public service announcements, reports, videos, and more.

3. Content brings in support

The content creates public awareness of pollinator collapse and brings in generous donors like you.

4. Support sustains the rescue

The support of caring community members like you sustains this important pollinator rescue intiative.

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SCIENCE-BASED BEE RESCUE ACTIONS

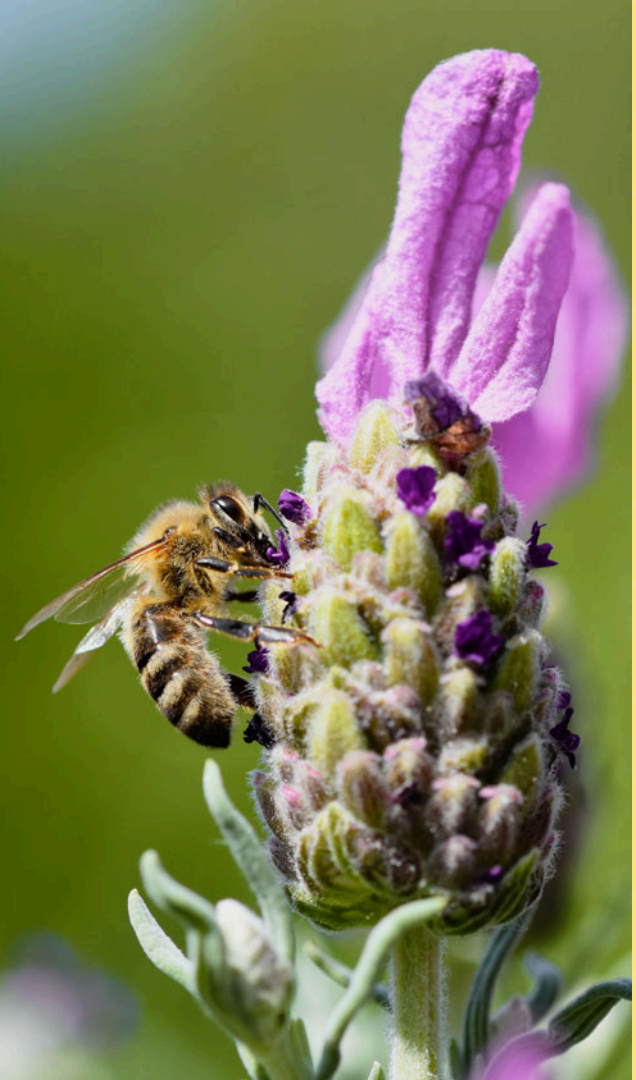
Student-led Bee Teams participate in curriculum-based, science-backed plans for sustaining pollinator populations.

- Bee Teams comprised of college and high school students facilitate coordinated bee rescue actions in their own communities and backyards.
- These science-based rescue actions include building and installing emergency bee hotels, planting rain gardens, identifying local species, and recording population counts.
- No-mow rain gardens convert lawns into native habitat that increases property value, eliminates lawn mowing, and addresses stormwater runoff.
- Bee team reporters document the work, identify local species, build population baseline counts, and assess risk for regional species.

STUDENT- LED MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

United Earth Fund’s central news hub at the University of Michigan is the command center for Save the Bees content.

- Bee Teams and student journalists contribute their research and reporting to produce detailed content for the news program, like PSAs, reports, and stories for print, digital, radio, and television.
- Student content on these vital issues helps advance public awareness and provide practical actions that can make a difference in their own backyards.
- Three work-study students build the operation: a technology manager, production manager, and expansion manager.
- Students gain hands-on experience while motivating individuals to join in to stop the destruction of pollinators and bees in their own communities.



COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED. EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

Save the Bees is powered by community support and guided by independent, evidence-based reporting.

- We welcome support from individuals, businesses, community partners, and educational-support programs.
- No donor, sponsor, or institution directs our editorial coverage or reporting.
- In-depth reports and stories empower individuals and organizations to make informed decisions about endangered species, ecology, and our shared future.

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THE DREAM BEE TEAM

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Meet the dedicated worker bees who keep our hive *buzzing*.

Allen Licari

As the Founder and Executive Director of United Earth Fund, I've spent nearly fifty years on our mission to save pollinators. I've also held the titles of producer, editor-in-chief, and broadcast journalist over the last five decades.

I was the news director at KPOO FM San Francisco, worked internationally for Ford and Chrysler, and was the regional sales manager at IVID Communications, which built the first interactive digital World Book Encyclopedia, Volume 5 and instructional design-based training.

During my time at MCI Telecommunications, I won the National Technical Operations, Subject Matter Expert award for a training program I developed and administered.

I've proudly self-funded United Earth Fund since its founding in 1977.

Orin G. Gelderloos, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies, Emeritus, University of Michigan-Dearborn; Founder of the Environmental Interpretive Center that developed the bee rescue protocol and the PolliNation application at the core of this work.

Dr. Terry L. Root

Senior Fellow Emerita, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment; Professor Emerita (by courtesy), Biology Department, Stanford University; Research referenced in Pulitzer Prize-winning climate science; Led the 2001 student and faculty video pilot at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources.

Melvin Claxton

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author (1995 Public Service Journalism; 2003 finalist); Co-designed United Earth Fund's investigative reporting infrastructure and student journalism and training framework.

Advisory Board

Dr. John Hartig, Detroit River Authority; Rick Simek, Naturalist, University of Michigan-Dearborn EIC; The late Dr. Harry Stevens, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and founder of PARTICIPATE, CompuServe's pioneering computer conferencing system; and the countless students, volunteers, and faculty spanning five decades.

A SPECIAL ENDORSEMENT

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From one of our dedicated worker bees:

Orin G. Gelderloos, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies, Emeritus, University of Michigan- Dearborn; Founder of the Environmental Interpretive Center that developed the bee rescue protocol and the PolliNation application at the core of this work

“I’m proud to endorse United Earth Fund’s Save the Bees initiative, with my PolliNation bee rescue protocol at the heart of its work. These dedicated experts understand what will be most impactful in saving the bees and educating the public, and their intentional actions will create noticeable change. I happily give my endorsement.”

Orin G. Gelderloos

SAVE THE BEES FUNDING GOALS

Phase 1: $30,000 to Establish the Central News Hub

- First semester of three work-study students at the University of Michigan
- Computer lease and ongoing infrastructure costs
- Basic operational supplies and utilities
- Initial Bee Team outreach to high schools to join in the program
- Storage and maintenance for the tape library and digital asset management and publication system

Phase 2: $50,000 to Expand the Student Network

- Second semester of student positions to complete the first full academic year
- Initial setup of the five participating university chapters
- Hire five work-study coordinator and management employees at five new universities
- Engage high schools to join the Bee Team stewardship rescue and reporting activities
- Bee Team field supplies for expanded programs
- Establish the UEN Save the Bees operations at additional universities

Phase 3: $75,000 to Reach Full-year Operations

- Full-year hub operational coverage: overhead, production, and buildout beyond student positions
- Support for initial satellite chapter setup
- Expanded production capacity and additional support
- Operational cushion for sustainable build out

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Save the Bees

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SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Help us keep the bees *buzzing*.

Save the Bees is funded entirely by the public, not corporate sponsors or government money.

1. Contribute	Donating at any level meaningful to you would mean the world to us. Every contribution helps support emergency rescue initiatives for pollinators.
2. Refer	When you open doors for us in your network, you open doors for colony-saving connections. An introduction from you carries weight that a cold contact does not.
3. Advise	Lend your professional expertise to our mission. United Earth Fund's advisory board was built by working professionals, and there's room for your expertise, too.
4. Found	Founding opportunities include chapter naming, Executive Producer credits, and Founding Patron roles.

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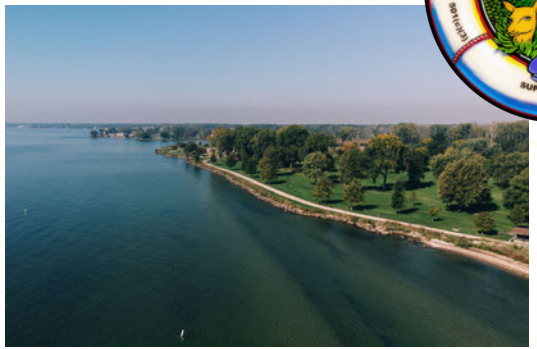
UNITED EARTH FUND

Founded in 1977, United Earth Fund supports student-led ecological journalism and life-supporting pollinator rescue work. UEF's bee rescue initiative, Save the Bees, is led by student chapters throughout the country.

United Earth Fund is a co-founder of the internationally-awarded Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, North America's only international wildlife refuge. Six additional expansion areas remain for future student teams.

Led by Dr. Terry L. Root, United Earth Fund produced the 2001 student and faculty video pilot for the Endangered Species Report at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources. The pilot predicted the sixth mass extinction 25 years before mainstream acknowledgment.

Our production catalog spans five decades and includes documentary films, civil rights interviews, ecological field documentation, investigative journalism frameworks, and historic Detroit rock and roll recordings from 1967-1970.



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THANK YOU

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